

Customer No. 31013

Attorney Docket No. 056314/0002

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kenichi IGA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2882

Serial No.: 09/717,733

Examiner: Chih-Cheng Glen Kao

Filed: November 21, 2000

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL FIBER SPLICING**

February 11, 2004

PETITION FOR THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME


Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby request that the time for responding to the Office Action mailed August 12, 2003 in the above-referenced patent application be extended for three (3) months pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). With this extension, the deadline for response is reset to expire on February 12, 2004.

The fee set in 37 CFR 1.17(a) for the three month extension of time at the small entity rate is \$475.00. A check in the amount of \$475.00 covering the extension fee is enclosed. Please charge any fee deficiency and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Respectfully submitted,


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